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Docket No.: N.C. 82,575
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MAR 26 2004

OFFICIAL

Applicants : Pong et al.
Appl. No. : 10/068,506
Filed : February 8, 2002
Title : OPTICAL FILTERS COMPRISING SOLAR BLIND DYES AND UV-
TRANSPARENT SUBSTRATES
Art Unit : 1775
Examiner : Ling X. Xu

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 FOR A NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action mailed on February 26, 2004.

Claims 1-25 are pending in the application. Claims 1-25 are subject to a restriction and/or election requirement by the Examiner. Restriction to one of the following inventions was required:

- I. Claims 1-14 and 25, drawn to an optical filter, classified in class 428, subclass 304.4;
and
II. Claims 15-24, drawn to a method of making an optical filter, classified in class 427, subclass 164.

Moreover, if Applicants elect Group I, an election of one of the following species was required if no generic claim is held to be allowable:

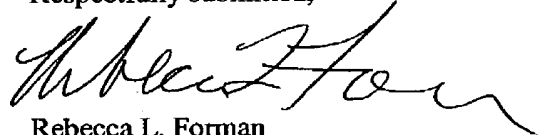
- The filter comprises filter dye of cyanine dye as recited in claims 2-5, and
- The filter comprises filter dye of salt of a dithioic acid as recited in claims 6-7.

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Applicants elect to prosecute Group I (Claims 1-14 and 25) without traverse. Moreover, if no generic claim of Group I is finally held to be allowable, Applicants elect the species for the filter comprising filter dye of cyanine dye as recited in claims 2-5. Kindly charge any additional fees due, or credit overpayment of fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0281.

Respectfully submitted,

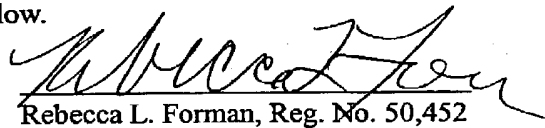


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Rebecca L. Forman, Reg. No. 50,452

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Date: March 26, 2004

Cover Sheet + 2 Pages

Message:

Appl. Ser. No. 10/068,506

Navy Case No. 82,575

Response - 2 pages

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